

Master List of Serious Game Concepts

Advanced Game Design, small-group brainstorming, Summer 2020

Note: I did some editing and rewording because some ideas overlapped, or I wanted to make entries quicker to read.

Simulations

1. CPR / first aid simulator.
2. Duck simulator. You could roam around as a duck and just do peaceful duck things or you can just wreak havoc on people.
3. Helicopter pilot simulator.
4. Simulator for skills like electricity or plumbing, which would be useful especially now because the workers in those fields are starting to become limited.
5. Struggles of students and the negative impact of school.
6. A simulator to make people feel they are outdoors in a natural environment, and not stuck inside during COVID. To help players relax.
7. A Sim-type life without quarantine, to give people hope.
8. Disease simulator (science of how diseases spread, and how to prevent the spread).
9. Discovering the truth about COVID.
10. Being a judge during the BLM protests and having to decide whether or not protesters were guilty of using too much force etc.
11. Politician simulator: Make decisions on various global issues, while serving yourself first. The objective is to keep yourself in office as long as possible.
12. President simulator: looking for a nomination, choosing a party and issues/movements to attract votes. It will take you all the way to the inauguration.
13. President simulator 2: seeking reelection for a second term, and finding issues to attract the attention of media/voters (and also distracting their attention away from certain things).
14. War simulator, you're not just fighting, you learn about people who sacrificed their lives to protect and serve.

Immersive Journalism

1. The experience of a natural disaster.
2. Understand the depth and complex issues surrounding Black Lives Matter.
3. Understand the motivations of people who join the BLM movement.
4. Understand the motivations of people who are rioting.
5. Understanding trash and pollution in the city, from the POV of a trash can.
6. Play as a doctor at the peak of the COVID 19 epidemic and a time of uncertainty.
7. Understanding what it is like to be a good cop, when the news is filled with bad cops.
8. Understand the roles and responsibilities of aldermen.
9. Bringing attention to issues that are neglected right now, such as homelessness, because the news cycles are only focusing on a few things.
10. The experience of being an immigrant dealing with everyday life.
11. How having mental issues can cause isolation.
12. A situation in which a bad government takes over, or people end up regretting the type of government they voted for.

Empathy Games

1. First-person, no-voice life simulator about being the loner kid.
2. A game to show how a kid becomes a bully to inflict pain on others so they could feel power, they're in control. It can give the players a sense of sadness for both the bully and the person being bullied from experiencing their past. They will witness the kid they're playing become a sweet kid who has done nothing wrong at school, into becoming a bully to feel power by inflicting his pain on others.
3. A game about mental illnesses because there are some people out there who kinda just brush it off as just being "sad" or "crazy." The game could be from the perspective of someone who hides their mental illness from the public/friends.
4. A choice game about choosing a path that fits with your views and you get to see what *other* people in the game would feel about it. Your choice will affect the characters.
5. Natural disaster game/ losing a family member game.

6. Someone experiencing the loss of a loved one because of COVID, it would try and draw attention to how people feel when others say that the virus isn't that serious and try to get people more empathetic to the situation.
7. A third person view of a family that has been left shattered because of domestic violence.
8. A game to show an enemy's perspective.
9. Complex situations that involve police and social injustices and a lack of information that ought to be better understood by the general public.
10. Having a simulator for a police officer would be a lot of fun to see, mostly because being a police officer gives you a lot of power. Having this power, however, comes with lots of responsibilities.
11. You play a new struggling country a part of the UN and must serve your people.
12. Play as an Uighur Muslim living in China.